

Featuring **THE BLACK HOOD**
TOP-NOTCH
comics

NO. 15 MAY

also.....
THE **WIZARD**
with
THE **ROY**
SUPER BOY

10c



**WEB COMIC
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2 leady STORIES in each MAGAZINE

THE BLACK HOOD



THE Wizard
WITH
ROY THE SUPER-BOY



TOP-NOTCH
ON SALE ABOUT THE 10TH OF EVERY MONTH *COMICS*

THE SHIELD
WITH
DUSTY
THE SPECTACULAR
BOY DETECTIVE



DANNY
IN
WONDERLAND



PEP ACTION DETECTIVE ADVENTURE
ON SALE ABOUT THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH

STEEL
STERLING
MAN OF STEEL



DICKY
IN THE
MAGIC FOREST



ZIP
COMICS
ON SALE ABOUT THE 25TH OF EVERY MONTH

RANG-A-TANG
THE WONDER DOG



WITH *Richy*
THE AMAZING BOY



MR. JUSTICE



BLUE RIBBON

COMICS

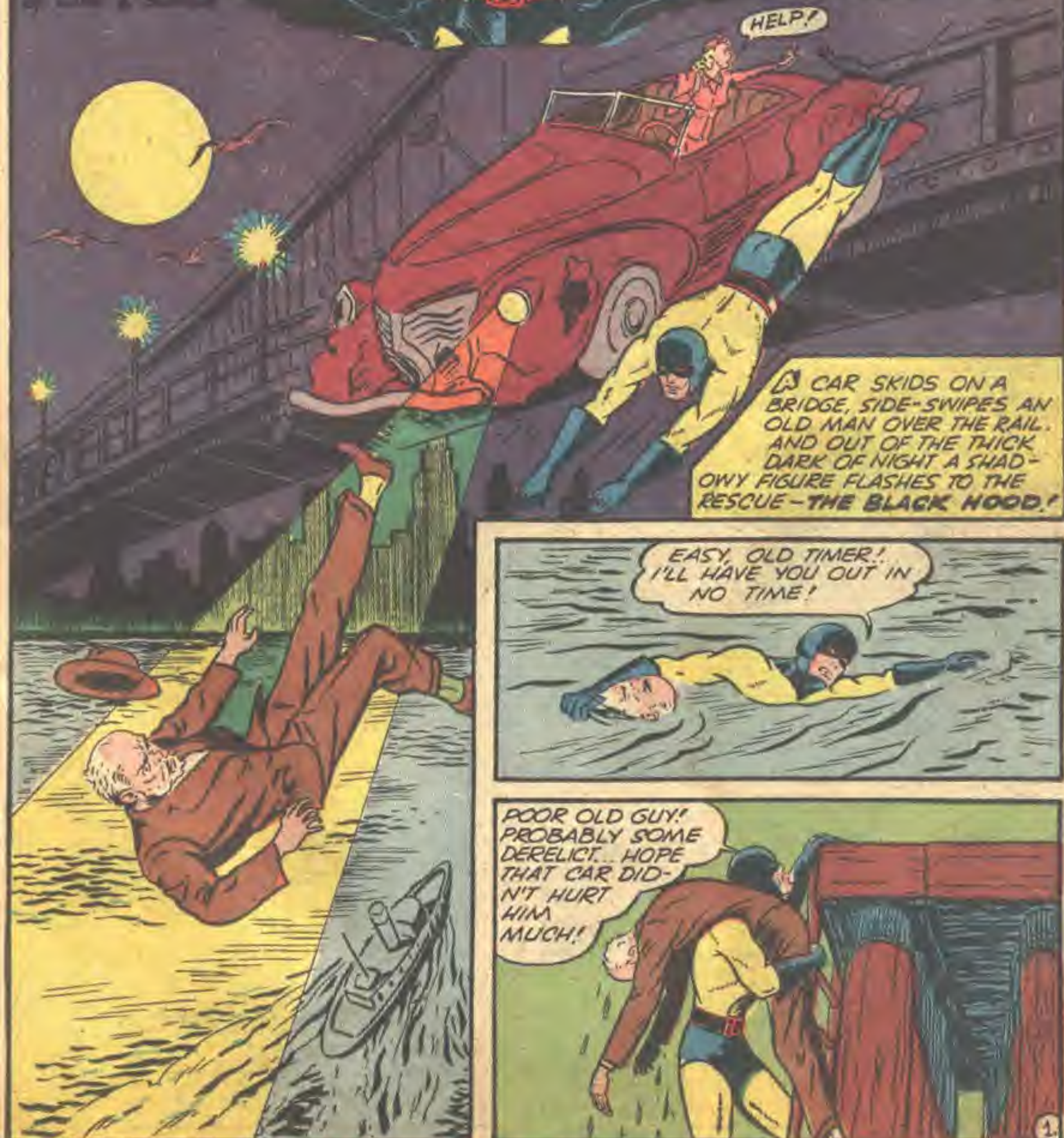



ON SALE ABOUT THE 30TH OF EVERY MONTH

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THE BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY

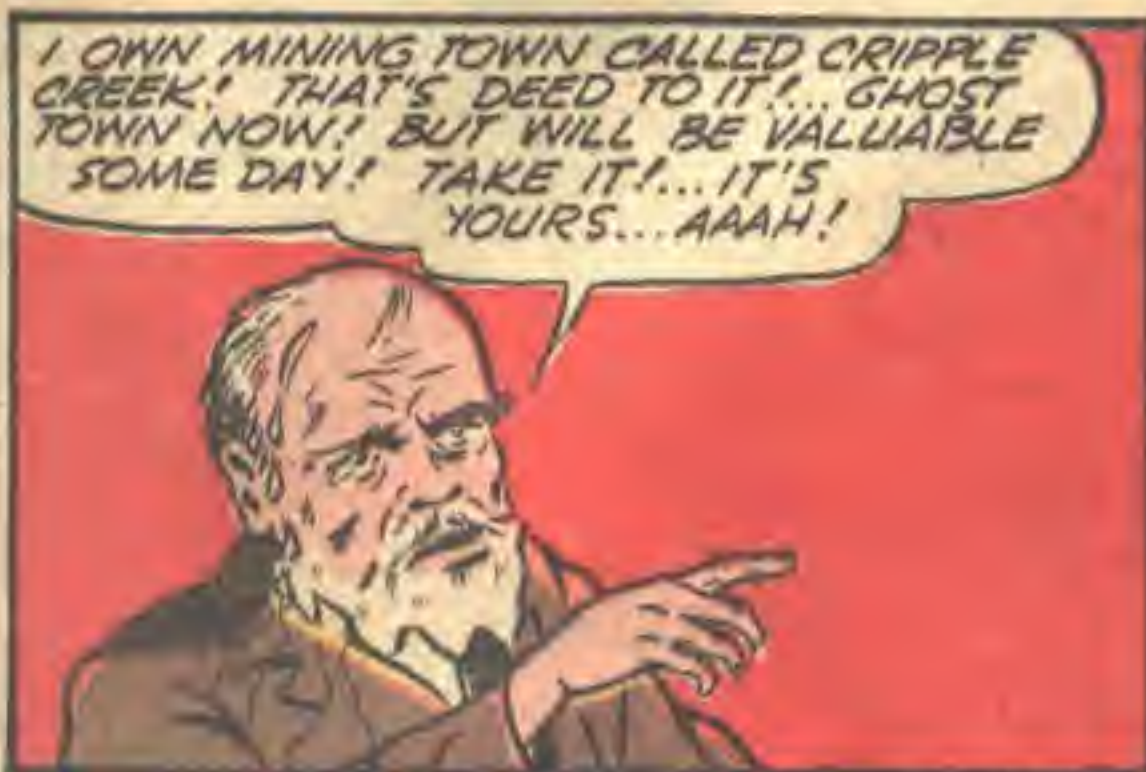


HELP!

A CAR SKIDS ON A BRIDGE, SIDE-SWIPE'S AN OLD MAN OVER THE RAIL. AND OUT OF THE THICK DARK OF NIGHT A SHAD-OWY FIGURE FLASHES TO THE RESCUE—THE BLACK HOOD!

EASY, OLD TIMER! I'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN NO TIME!

POOR OLD GUY! PROBABLY SOME DERELICT... HOPE THAT CAR DIDN'T HURT HIM MUCH!







WHY, YES! AND WHY SHOULDN'T WE GO THERE?

'CAUSE IT'S HAUNTED... BY A HEADLESS HORSE-MAN! GO BACK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



I ALSO TOLD A PROSPECTOR HEAD-ED THAT WAY JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO!... BUT HE WOULDN'T TAKE MY WARNIN'!

AND NEITHER WILL WE!... HEAD-LESS HORSEMAN... BALONEY!



THAT GHOST STORY INTER-ESTS ME!... WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME MORE ABOUT THIS HEADLESS HORSEMAN?

SURE, MAM!... BUT IT AIN'T A VERY PURTY TALE!



IT ALL STARTED WHEN CRIPPLE CREEK WAS FLUSH WITH MINERS AND GAMBLERS - THE WORST BEING PINTO PETE !!!

YOU'RE A CHEAT, PINTO!



PINTO WAS LIGHTNING FAST ON THE DRAW AND HE KILLED THEM - TWO MEN WHO WERE TWIN BROTHERS.



THE SHERIFF WENT AFTER PINTO WITH A BULL WHIP. WANTED TO TAKE HIM ALIVE!

STOP, PINTO!



SO HE SLUNG THE WHIP AFTER HIM - NOT RECKONIN' ON THE FEARFUL CONSEQUENCES!



PINTO'S HORSE WAS GOIN' AT A TERRIFIC SPEED WHEN THE WHIP CAUGHT HIM BY THE THROAT, AND A HOR-RIBLE THING HAPPENED!

AND THE STORY GOES THAT PINTO CAME RIGHT BACK, HEADLESS, GRABBED THE WHIP FROM THE SHERIFF -



AND TORE HIS HEAD OFF EXACTLY THE SAME WAY!



THAT HEADLESS HORSEMAN KEPT COMIN' BACK, DETERMINED TO WIPE OUT THE WHOLE TOWN! 'N WOULD'VE IF THEY HADN'T BEAT IT!

HAW, HAW! THAT'S A LAUGH!

MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN HIS STORY, BARBARA!



I DON'T LIKE GHOSTS! LET'S TURN BACK!

KIP BURLAND, YOU COWARD! I'M NOT GIVING YOU BACK THE DEED TO THE TOWN!

AT'S TELLIN' HIM, BARBARA!



TOODLE-OO!... YOU CAN WAIT HERE FOR US... WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE!

ER... AH... YEAH! 5' LONG!



CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT! EXPECTIN' US TO BELIEVE THAT FAIRY STORY!

JUST THE SAME, I WISH HE HADN'T, NOW! IT WAS GRUESOME!



SUDDENLY -

JOE! GREAT HEAVENS! LOOK! A HEAD-LESS CORPSE!



IT MUST BE THAT PROSPECTOR THE STATION ATTENDANT WAS TELLIN' US ABOUT!

H... HOW HORRIBLE!





THEN A MISDIRECTED LASH THIRLS
AROUND ONE OF THE HOUSE POSTS
-AND TEARS IT OFF!



WHIP STILL COILED ABOUT THE POST, THE HEADLESS
HORSEMAN IS FORCED TO RETREAT WITH THE
BLACK HOOD IN PURSUIT!



THE GHOST MAN'S HORSE HEADS STRAIGHT FOR
THE STEEP SLOPE - AND PLUNGES OVER!



WHEN THE HOOD COMES UP-

WHAT IN- HE SEEMS TO
HAVE VANISHED IN THIN
AIR? I'LL HAVE A
LOOK AROUND!



WHADDA YA WANNA
GO CHASIN' AFTER
'EM FOR, BARBARA?

OH HUSH UP JOE!
WHERE IN THE WORLD
CAN THEY HAVE BOTH
GONE?



THE BLACK HOOD
SAVED OUR
LIVES, JOE!

NUTS! HE WAS SO
ANXIOUS TO GET
OUTTA THE WAY
OF THAT WHIP
HE JUST HAP-
PENED TO
BUMP US
ASIDE!



WHEN THEY RETURN TO THE OLD

I'LL
BE...

KIP BURLAND!
HOW DID YOU
GET HERE?

GOT A LIFT?
I... ER... DECIDED
TO STICK WITH
YOU!



YOU MEAN YOU GOT
THE HEEBIE
JEEBIES, YOU
SHRINKIN'
VIOLET!

OH LOOK! THAT'S
THE PLACE WHERE
THE GHOST BUSINESS
BEGAN! LET'S
GO IN!





I'VE GOT A
NAME FOR
THIS GAME!



IT'S CALLED "SLAPPING
THE GHOSTS AROUND!"



YOU'RE MIGHTY
ANXIOUS TO USE
THAT WHIP ON ME,
AREN'T YOU?



IN HIS EFFORT TO DODGE THE
DEATH LASH, THE BLACK HOOD
CATCHES A CRUEL BLOW FROM
THE BUTT OF THE WHIP!



AND WHILE THE HOOD AND JOE ARE STILL REELING,
THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN GRABS BARBARA!



JOE MAKES A
FRANTIC DIVE,
BUT—



HE WON'T
ESCAPE ME
THIS TIME!



THERE HE GOES...AND
I THINK I KNOW WHERE
HE'S HEADED FOR!













LAUGHS WITH JOE STRONG! ROMANCE WITH BEAUTIFUL BARBARA SUTTON. THRILLS AND CHILLS AND BLOOD TINGLING ACTION WITH THE BLACK HOOD!

ALL-IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS!

THE BEST COMIC MAGAZINE A DIME CAN BUY!

THE WIZARD

AND ROY THE SUPER BOY



A TOAST TO MR. WHITNEY, ONE OF OUR MOST RENOWNED CITIZENS. HIS ANCESTOR WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO BE BURNED AT THE STAKE FOR WITCHCRAFT BY OUR IGNORANT ANCESTORS!

A TOAST!

SPEECH! SPEECH!

CLARE WHITNEY HAS TAKEN JANE AND ROY TO HIS HOME TOWN IN NEW ENGLAND FOR A VACATION!... AT THE MOMENT, THE VILLAGERS ARE HOLDING THE FEAST OF ALL HALLOW'S EVE, THE NIGHT OF THE NITCHES... AND TO SUIT THE OCCASION ALL ARE GARBED IN THE STYLE OF THEIR ANCESTORS, THE WITCH-HUNTING PURITANS OF EARLY AMERICA!

SUDDENLY...



EEE!

WHAT IN...!



I AM THE DESCENDANT OF THE WITCH! YOU, JOHN DEWEY, SHALL DIE!

AN INSENSIBLE JOKE, MR. REEVES! CONGRATULATIONS!



THERE HE GOES!

BUT I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS! I THOUGHT YOU STAGED IT!

WE... THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE?... WE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

ER... MR. WHITNEY! THE WITCH HAS ALREADY INTRODUCED US!... THIS IS MY FIANCEE, NITA HOLBROOK!

HOW DO YOU DO?... THIS IS MISS BARLOW AND MY YOUNG FRIEND, ROY!

WHAT!

HOW DO YOU DO, MR. WHITNEY!

THAT'S A VERY ODD AMULET, MISS HOLBROOK!... AND PRETTY TOO!

THANK YOU! IT'S A FAMILY HEIR-LOOM, SUPPOSED TO POSSESS MAGICAL QUALITIES! ONE OF MY ANCESTORS WAS KILLED AS A WITCH, YOU KNOW!

I'VE BEEN BORN WITH A HORROR OF THE THOUGHT -ALMOST AN OBSESSION!... I REALLY DO BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE WITCHES, AND THE ONE WE JUST SAW IS NO HOAX!

WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON, DON'T YOU THINK, MR. WHITNEY?... WE SHOULD SEE A GREAT DEAL OF EACH OTHER!

HMMMPH!

ER... AH... OF COURSE!

CHARMING GIRL, THAT MISS HOLBROOK, EH JANE?

YOU'VE SPOKEN ABOUT NOTHING ELSE NOW FOR FIVE MINUTES! PLEASE TAKE ME TO THE HOTEL, BLANE!

BRR! THAT'S WHAT I CALL A COLD SHOULDER! WHAT DID I SAY THAT WAS WRONG, ROY?

EVERYTHING, BLANE! JANE IS JEALOUS! HA! HA!

HEY BLANE! LOOK! A FIRE IN THE FOREST!

A LIGHTNING CHANGE AND THE WIZARD AND THE SUPER-BOY STREAK TOWARD THE CONFLAGRATION!



DASHES THE SUPER-BOY AGAINST A TREE!



WHEN ROY REGAINS HIS SENSES...

OOO! WH...WHAT HIT ME? WITCH! ESCAPED! BETTER GET BACK TO THE WIZARD!



WIZARD! THE WITCH ESCAPED! HOW IS THAT GUY?

BURNED TO DEATH, POOR CHAP!



BOY! I NEVER THOUGHT A WOMAN COULD BE SO STRONG! DO YA THINK MAYBE SHE IS A REAL WITCH?

I DON'T KNOW, ROY! RIGHT NOW, LET'S GET DEWEY BACK TO TOWN!



BLANE AND ROY CARRY THE CHARRED REMAINS BACK TO THE HORRIFIED TOWNSPEOPLE!

IT WAS THE WITCH, FOLKS! BURNED HIM AT THE STAKE!

GREAT LORD!

W. WITCH!



LET ME THROUGH! JOHN... MY FIANCE! THE WITCH KILLED HIM!

IT'S MISS HOLBROOK!



THEY SCOFFED AT ME WHEN I TOLD THEM THE WITCH WAS REAL!... OH, MY POOR, DARLING JOHN! (SOB, SOB)

THERE, TAKE IT EASY, MISS HOLBROOK! IT'S A SHOCK, BUT YOU MUSTN'T TAKE ON SO!

OH YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING, MR WHITNEY!







LET'S GO
AND TELL
BLANE
ABOUT
IT, JANE!

YOU CAN IF YOU
WANT TO! I'M
HANDLING THIS
ALONE! I'M
GOING TO SEE
NITA HOLBROOK
RIGHT NOW!



WHY HELLO!...WHAT BRINGS
YOU HERE THIS TIME OF
NIGHT?

YOU'LL KNOW
SOON ENOUGH!...
AND YOU
WON'T LIKE IT!



I SAW THE WITCH! HE WAS
WEARING AN AMULET JUST LIKE
YOURS... THE HEIRLOOM, YOU
CALLED IT!

Y..YOU KNOW!



YES! I KNOW
HE'S SOME
RELATIVE OF
YOURS! MAYBE
YOUR BROTHER!



YOU KNOW TOO MUCH...UNFORTUNATELY
FOR YOU!



WHEN JANE REGAINS
CONSCIOUSNESS...

SO
YOU'VE
COME TO
IN TIME TO
SEE YOUR
OWN END,
EH!



YES!...HE'S MY
BROTHER!...BUT
YOU SHAN'T
LIVE TO TELL
ANYBODY
ELSE!

WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO!...
LET ME GO!



THIS WOOD IS
SOAKED IN
KEROSENE! I'LL
PUT THE CANDLE
ON IT!...THERE!
WHEN IT BURNS
LOW THE FLAME
WILL IGNITE IT..
AND THEN
YOU'LL BE FREE...
FOREVER!

NO!
NO!
HELP!

MEANWHILE...

'N SO THIS BIG GOON WAS PLAYIN' A MINIATURE PHONOGRAPH THAT HAD A WOMAN'S VOICE ON IT!...JANE WENT TO SEE THE HOLBROOK GIRL!

A WOMAN'S VOICE EH? ...HMM... INTERESTING... VERY INTERESTING!

NO!...I WON'T GO BACK WITH YOU ROY!...I'M GOING TO NITA HOLBROOK'S HOUSE, TOO!

WHAT!...JANE WAS RIGHT! YOU HAVE GONE SOFT ON THAT DAME!...OKAY! I'LL GO MYSELF!

WAIT A MINUTE, ROY! ...COME BACK!

NOTHING DOING! YOU THINK MORE OF THAT DAME THAN OF US!...OKAY GO TO HER!

JUST THEN BLANE'S SUPER BRAIN IS STIRRED BY JANE'S CRY FOR HELP AND HE SUMMONS UP A VISION...

THAT SHE-DEVIL IS ROASTING JANE ALIVE!

HA HA!

PLEASE! DON'T!

FASTER THAN THOUGHT ITSELF THE WIZARD STREAKS TO THE RESCUE OF HIS BELOVED...

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO LET JANE INTO THIS!

CLOSER AND CLOSER THE FLAMES LICK ABOUT TO JANE'S BODY...

OOOHH!

WIZARD! THANK HEAVENS!

A HEAVING SURGE, A LEAP AND OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH, COMES JANE, STAKE AND ALL!



YOU'RE RIGHT! THEY'LL DIE THE HARD WAY! TIE THEM TO THOSE SÄPLINGS!



OWOO!... THIS THING'S BREAKING MY BONES!

AAARGH!

HA HA!... THEY'RE WHINING FOR MERCY!

LOOK AT THE SUFFERING ON THE BLASTED WITCHES' FACES!



AND AGAIN THE WIZARD FLASHES TO THE SCENE...

WH..WHA?! LOOK!



A MIGHTY WRENCH... AND OUT COMES THE SÄPLING ROOTS AND ALL...



A LITTLE MORE OF THAT AND YOU COULD HAVE USED ME FOR A TOOTHPICK!



WE KNOW YOU'RE THE WIZARD! BUT YOU CAN'T STOP US!... THEY'RE WITCHES AND THEY'RE GOING TO DIE!

BE SENSIBLE GENTLEMEN! THIS ISN'T WITCHCRAFT! IT'S PLAIN 20th CENTURY MURDER!... IN YOUR MORE RATIONAL MOMENTS, YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO, THERE NEVER WERE ANY SUCH CREATURES AS WITCHES!



YOU SEE! HE'S JUST AN IDIOT... A MAN CARRYING AROUND A PHONOGRAPH THAT MADE YOU THINK HE WAS A WOMAN!



THE ONE BEHIND IT ALL IS NITA HOLBROOK!... THIS FELLOW IS HER FEEBLE-MINDED BROTHER WHO SHE PLANTED ON THE SCENES OF HER CRIMES TO TAKE THE BLAME! THAT VOICE ON THE PHONOGRAPH IS HERE!

B... BUT THAT BLOOD MESSAGE!

PROBABLY LIPSTICK OR RED PAINT, IF YOU LOOKED CLOSELY!

WHERE IS NITA HOLBROOK ANYWAY? SHE WAS WITH US! IN FACT, SHE STARTED US OFF!



JUST THEN...

A WOMAN'S VOICE?... MORE TROUBLE!

IT'S DOWN THE ROAD, WIZARD!

HELP!
HELP!
HELP!



IT'S JANE!... SHE'S CAUGHT NITA!



YOU VIXEN! TRY TO KILL ME, WILL YOU?

I SAW THE BULLETIN-BOARD MESSAGE AND I CAME OUT HERE!... I RAN INTO THAT CAT COMING DOWN THE ROAD!

SHE WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE!



LATER...

SO YOU SEE, ROY WHEN YOU MENTIONED THE PHONOGRAPH, I KNEW THAT THE ONE RESPONSIBLE WAS RIGHT HERE IN TOWN!

GEE!... 'N I THOUGHT YOU'D GONE OVER-BOARD FOR THAT DAME! I FEEL LIKE A HEEL!... C'MON, LET'S SQUARE YOU UP WITH JANE!



ER... AH... UH... HELLO, JANE!

HIYA, DEMON REPORTER!

I JUST FINISHED TYPING UP NITA HOLBROOK'S CONFESSION!



SHE KILLED HER FIANCEE BECAUSE SHE WAS IN HIS WILL AS THE SOLE HEIR TO HIS FORTUNE, AND SHE LOVED HIS MONEY A LOT MORE THAN SHE DID HIM!

AND THEN ONE MURDER LED TO ANOTHER... LIKE IT USUALLY DOES, EH?



YES!... AND THE WAY YOU WERE MAKING GOO GOO EYES AT HER... YOU PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF HER VICTIMS, YOU... YOU... FATHEAD!

NOW WAIT A MINUTE JANE... I... THAT IS... AW, NUTS!



ANOTHER SMASH ADVENTURE WITH THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPER-BOY IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING IN THE NEXT ISSUE... AND ANOTHER ONE AFTER THAT! IN FACT A HOMERUN EVERY TIME THEY ARE AT BAT! YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS A SINGLE ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS, YOUR FAVORITE COMIC MAGAZINE!

FRAN FRAZER



IN ALBANIA - WHERE THE GREEKS ARE HEROICALLY ADVANCING, ALTHOUGH TREMENDOUSLY OUTNUMBERED BY THEIR BETTER-EQUIPPED ITALIAN FOES!



THINGS ARE GETTIN' TOO HOT, FRAN! LET'S BEAT IT!

WHAT! AND LOSE THESE SWELL SHOTS! NOT A CHANCE, HAL!

SUDDENLY, THERE IS A TERRIFIC SURGE OF ITALIAN INFANTRY AND THE GREEKS ARE PUSHED FARTHER AND FARTHER BACK!



WE'RE CAUGHT BEHIND THE LINES FRAN! WE GOTTA GET OUT OF SIGHT!



THE ITALIANS SOON OCCUPY THE ENTIRE CITY!



SUDDENLY...



VAS IST?

HOLY MACKERAL-GERMANS!



THOSE STORIES OF GERMAN RE-ENFORCEMENTS FOR THE ITALIANS ARE TRUE AFTER ALL

YES! BUT YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO TELL ABOUT IT! YOU HAVE BEEN CAUGHT WITH A CAMERA... YOU WILL BE SHOT AS A SPY!



WAIT! YOU CAN'T! THEY DELIBERATELY EXPOSED THEMSELVES TO HELP OUR MEN!

THAT IS NO CONCERN OF MINE! TAKE THEM AWAY, MEN!



YOU AND YOUR FATHEAD IDEAS! ...NOW WHAT?

YOU TELL ME!... I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INTO THIS, HAL!



JUST THEN THE DOCTOR ENTERS.

WHICH ONE OF YOU IS SICK?

SICK? WHY, NOBODY'S.



FRAN GETS A FLASH OF INTUITION

WHY... IT'S HAL, DOCTOR! HE'S GOT A BELLYACHE!

OOF!... WHY... UH... YEAH! BELLACHE!



WHILE THE DOCTOR PRETENDS TO TREAT HAL, HE WHISPERS TO FRAN!

I'VE PUT BLANKS IN GUNS OF SHOOTING SQUAD!... PRETEND TO BE SHOT!

OOO!... MY STOMACH!



HERE! TOMATOES! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

YES! THANKS, DOC!



LATER...

WELL, HERE WE GO! HOPE THE DOC ISN'T A PRACTICAL JOKER!

I DON'T THINK HE IS... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THAT TOMATO, HAL!



KEITH KORNELL

WEST POINTER



KEITH KORNELL, SERVING TEMPORARILY AS LIEUTENANT IN A DRAFT CAMP, IS IN TOWN WITH A FEW OF THE PRIVATES OF HIS PLATOON.



TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!



HUTCH!!..CUT IT OUT!!







WHY DON'T YOU JOIN UP WITH A REAL ARMY—OUR BUND CAMP? WE'RE AMERICAN PATRIOTS, TOO. AND WE'LL TREAT YOU LIKE A MAN!



SURE! WHY NOT... I'M TIRED OF BEIN' KICKED AROUND... WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?



ONE WEEK LATER!

OFFICERS!... RIFLES HAVE BEEN MYSTERIOUSLY DIS-APPEARING!... CHECK WITH YOUR PLATOONS AND SEE IF YOU CAN FIND ANY-THING!... DISMISSED!



LATER
HUTCH IS STILL SORE AT ME, THE LUNKHEAD... I'M GOING OVER TO HIS BUNK RIGHT NOW AND TELL HIM IT WAS MY DUTY TO TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT FIGHT!



HEY!... WHO'S THAT COMING OUT OF THE ARSENAL?... WHY, HE'S CARRYING OUT RIFLES!



HEY!... WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THOSE RIFLES?... WHY... IT'S HUTCH!

KORNELL, HUH?



OOOPH!

HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU FER A LONG TIME!

GEE! I SHOULDN'T A HIT THE LOOEY SO HARD... AH, NUTS!... HE HAD IT COMIN' TO HIM!



WHEW!... I'M STILL WOOLY... GOTTA GET UP AND FOLLOW HUTCH. GOTTA SEE WHAT HE'S UP TO!



AT THE BUND CAMP

THIS IS THE LAST BATCH O' RIFLES YOU'LL GET! LIEUTENANT KORNELL TRIED TO STOP ME!

WHAT?



IF HE REPORTS THIS, ITS TROUBLE FOR ALL OF US! GO BACK QUICK... AND SHUT HIS MOUTH — PERMANENTLY!

WHAT?... ME KNOCK OFF MY PAL..... GO DUCK YOUR HEAD!



HE'S OF NO MORE USE TO US... WE GET RID OF HIM TOO, EH?

MURDER, HUH?... I'M REPORTIN' YA MYSELF... 'N TAKE MY MEDICINE!



HEY... WHAT?

SO YOU WANT TO REPORT US, EH?



WOW!... I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! LOOKS LIKE HUTCH GOT HIMSELF IN DUTCH WITH THE KRAUTS.



KEEP PUNCHING, PAL COMING!





HERE, SCHNITZEL! HAVE YOURSELF A NAP!

HAALP!

UGH!



GRAB ONE OF THOSE RIFLES AND SHOOT INTO THE AIR, HUTCH! MAYBE THE ARMY BOYS'LL HEAR IT!



I'LL USE A RIFLE TOO... BUT FOR A DIFFERENT REASON!

AND BANG!



KEITH'S STRATEGY IS EFFECTIVE, THE SOLDIERS SOON COME RUNNING!



AND THE BUNDSMEN ARE ROUNDED UP!



IT WAS ALL MY FAULT, SIR!... I SWIPED THOSE RIFLES AND I.....

HMM!... I'LL DEAL WITH YOU IN THE MORNING!



NEXT MORNING!

ON LIEUTENANT KORNEILL'S RECOMMENDATION, YOU WILL BE LET OFF LIGHTLY THIS TIME, PRIVATE HUTCH.

THANK YOU, SIR!



GEE, LOOEY... I WUZ A HEEL.. WILL YA SHAKE?

SURE HUTCH!.. WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES!.. BUT IT TAKES A MAN TO ADMIT IT!

YOU'LL GET AN EVEN GREATER THRILL WITH KEITH KORNEILL, WEST POINTER, IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS

THE FIREFLY

DEEP IN THE LONELY, MYSTERIOUS BAYOU COUNTRY, THE PEOPLE OF THE SWAMPS GATHER AT THE CEMETERY—TO HEAR THE STRANGE TALES OF ATIRA, THE WITCH WOMAN!!

HEED MY WORDS! IF YOU WANT YOUR SONS' BODIES TO RETURN FROM THEIR GRAVES IN THE SEA, PLACE PIECES OF GOLD ON THEIR OPEN SEPULCHERS! GOLD PIECES WILL BRING THEM BACK—ONLY GOLD AND NOTHING ELSE!

YOU SEE! THERE IS MY SON'S SPIRIT! BECAUSE I PLACED GOLD ON HIS GRAVE!

YES, MOTHER! I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE SEA... BUT I CANNOT REST UNTIL THE SONS WHO DROWNED WITH ME ALSO RETURN! TELL THEIR FAMILIES TO PLACE GOLD ON THEIR GRAVES! THEIR SONS AND I WANT TO REST IN ETERNAL PEACE!

THE SPIRIT HEAD DISAPPEARS BEHIND A MOUND!

NOW DO YOU BELIEVE? GOLD! PLACE GOLD ON THE GRAVES OF YOUR BOYS!



MY BROTHER!
WHERE IS MY
BROTHER?



JEANNE EGART, WHOSE BEAUTY
IS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE BAYOU,
RUSHES TO THE CEMETERY!

WHAT UNHOLY
THINGS ARE YOU
GETTING THESE
PEOPLE TO DO,
ATIRA? AND
WHERE IS MY
BROTHER?

YOU LITTLE FOOL!
YOU DARE BREAK
IN ON A RE-
LIGIOUS CER-
EMONY? GO!



REALIZING THE FOLLY OF ARGUING WITH
THE WITCH-WOMAN, JEANNE LEAVES!



THE GIRL HURRIES THROUGH THE
SWAMP TO A SMALL SHACK,
WHERE HARLEY HUDSON IS
BUSILY AT WORK ON A NEW
SERUM!



MISTER HUDSON!
YOU MUST HELP ME!
YOU MUST!



I JUST KNOW
SOMETHING HOR-
RIBLE IS GOING
TO HAPPEN!

YOU GO BACK AND KEEP
YOUR EYES ON THEM!
I'LL BE ALONG IN A
FEW MINUTES!

JEANNE TELLS HUDSON OF THE RITES AT THE CEMETERY!

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE "WITCHCRAFT" OF THE BAYOU COUNTRY - BUT I HAVE A HUNCH IT'S NOT WHAT IT SEEMS TO BE! THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD TIME FOR THE FIREFLY TO ENTER THE PICTURE!



JEANNE MAKES HER WAY BACK THROUGH THE SWAMP TOWARD THE CEMETERY!



HE, HE! YOU SEE? WHILE YOU'VE BEEN GONE ANOTHER SON HAS RETURNED TO HIS GRAVE! LOOK! I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU!



THERE IS THE BODY-HOME FROM THE SEA! AND ALL BECAUSE HIS MOTHER SPRINKLED GOLD COINS ON HIS BURIAL PLACE!



EVEN NOW SHE PRAYS IN THANKFULNESS FOR HER SON'S RETURN! NOW WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY?



I STILL SAY YOU'RE ALL BEING DUPED BY SOMEONE! HOW DOES THAT WOMAN KNOW THAT'S THE BODY OF HER SON? IT COULD BE ANY MAN - EVEN - EVEN MY BROTHER. IF YOU'VE KILLED HIM -



SILENCE!

DRIVE HER AWAY!

SEND THE DISBELIEVER OUT OF THE CEMETERY!

KEEP AWAY FROM ME!



BUT STREAKING THROUGH THE SWAMPS, NOT FAR AWAY - THE FIREFLY!



JUST A MINUTE, YOU PEOPLE!



WHO IS THIS THING? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?



WHOA! THAT HEAD! WHERE'D IT COME FROM?

FROM THE SEA! I CAME FROM THE SEA TO REST!



DON'T TELL ME A SPOOK IS AFRAID OF A MERE MAN!



GONE! THAT HEAD DISAPPEARED AS IF IT WERE A GHOST! I WONDER-



LOOK INTO THE GRAVE, STRANGER! SEE! THE BODY OF A BOY HAS RETURNED FROM THE SEA TO LIE IN PEACE IN HIS FAMILY'S GRAVE!



THE FIREFLY PEERS INTO THE TOMB.

HMM! HIS FACE IS UNRECOGNIZABLE! BUT ONLY BECAUSE IT'S BEEN EATEN AWAY BY ACID!



AN UNEARTHLY SHRIEK ECHOES AND REECHOES THROUGH THE BURIAL GROUNDS!

WHAT WAS THAT? IT SOUNDED LIKE JEANNE!





THE ST. LOUIS KID

A SHRIeking SIREN SHATTERS THE AIR, AND AN AMBULANCE ROCKETS THROUGH THE STREETS ON AN EMERGENCY CALL!



GOSH! YA SHOULDN'TA HIT THE MASHER SO HARD, KID!

I ASKED THE DOCTOR, WINDY! HE'LL BE OKAY...JUST A FEW DAYS IN THE HOSPITAL!



NEXT DAY, THE KID CALLS ON HIS SWEETHEART, MARY MOLLOY







AH, YOU'RE NUTS! I WUZN'T DOIN' OVER TWENTY.

C'MON WISE GUY! TELL IT TO THE JUDGE!



NOW LOOK JUDGE! KNOW WHO I AM! I'M PRACTICALLY THE FATHER-IN-LAW OF THE ST. LOUIS KID! BLA!.. BLA!.. BLA!..

IS THAT SO! \$100 FINE OR TEN DAYS IN JAIL!



WHY TH' DUMB HICK! HE CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!



ST. LOUIS KID'S FATHER-IN-LAW! WHAT A BREAK! I'LL RUN RIGHT OVER TO THE GYM!



HA! HA! IF THAT BAG OF WIND KNEW I HAD A FIGHTER OF MY OWN, HE WOULDN'T HAVE SHOT OFF HIS MOUTH!



IN THE GYM...

FOOEY! THEES EES NO FUN!

ZOCK



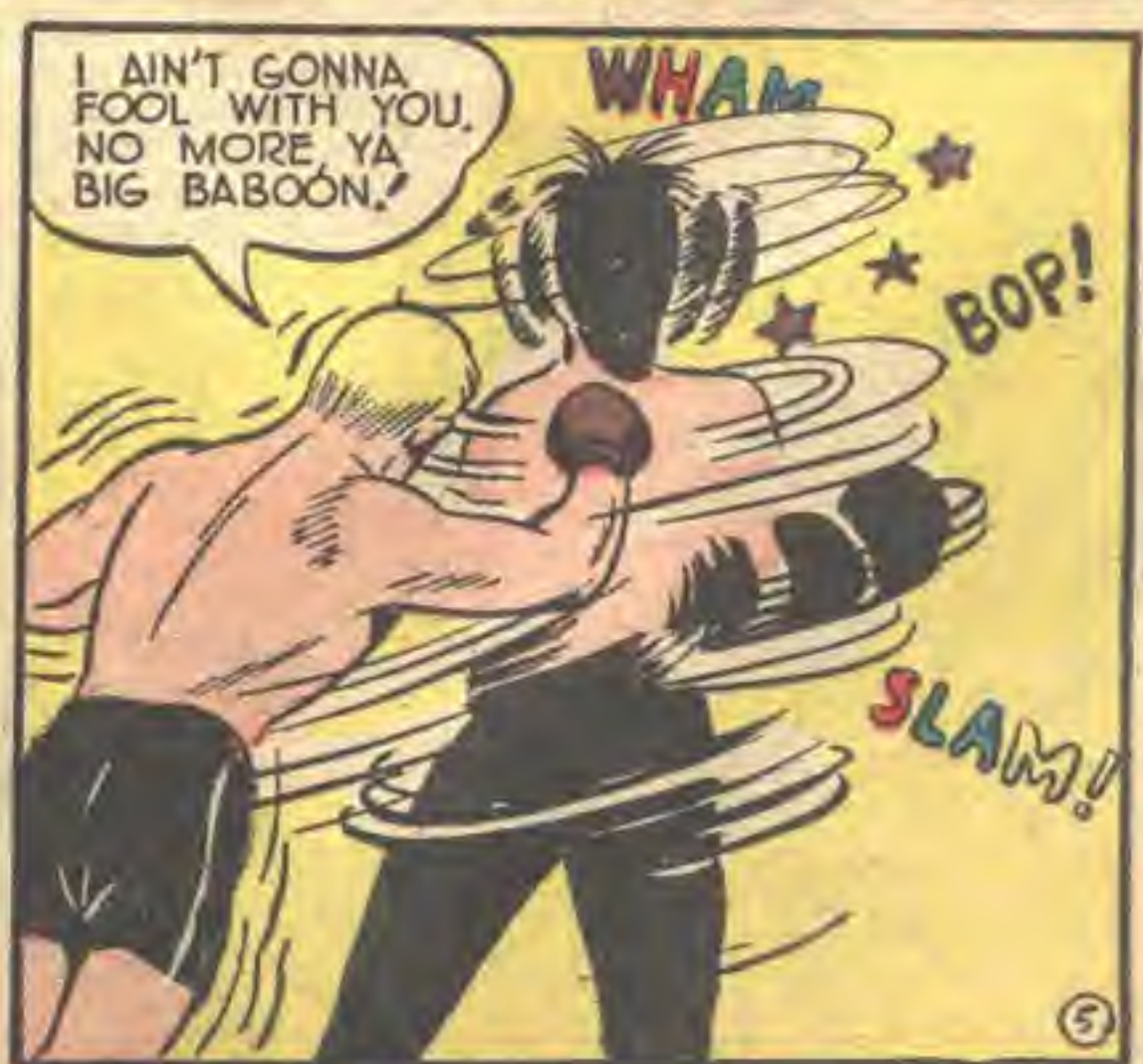
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE DAY, PAMPAS!... NICE WORK!



NOW I'LL START GETTIN' YOU SOME REAL FIGHTS! WITH MY BRAINS AND THE JUDGE'S DOUGH, WE'LL GET SOMEWHERE!

BREENG 'EM ON! I TEAR 'EM APART IN LITTLE PIECES!





1...(GET UP YA BIG LUG)..2...(ON YOUR FEET!)..3...(I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP ALL DAY)..4...(AH, NUTS ! IT'S NO USE)



ONE HOUR LATER...

WHAT HEET PAMPAS?
DID YOU GET
NUMBA OF
TRUCK?

IT WASN'T
NO
TRUCK,
SAP!..IT
WUZ THE
ST. LOUIS
KID!



ANYONE WOT LEEK
PAMPAS IS FRIEND!..WHERE
THEES ST. LOUIS KID! ME
SHAKE HIS HAND!



THE JUDGE
SLAPPED
HIM IN THE
CLINK!.. FER
SUSPICION

NOW LOOK WHAT
YOU DONE POP!
THE JUDGE SAYS
HE'S GONNA THROW
THE KEY
AWAY!

I'LL THINK
O' SOME-
THIN!



KEED !..ST.
LOUIS
KEED!

IT'S THE BUM
I KNOCKED
COLD!



OH! SO IT'S
MORE FIGHT HE
WANTS, EH?

NO ONE KEEP MY FRIEN' EEN
JAIL!.. URRFF! YOU FREE NOW!



THEES COPS! THEY TRY TO
STOP ME!.. BUT I DON'T
THEENK THEY TRY AGAIN!



WOW!
THIS
PLACE
LOOKS LIKE
A CYCLONE
HIT IT!

IS..IS..THAT
WILD BULL
GONE, YET?



HO! YOU BOYS MY BODDIES
FROM NOW ON, EH?

CHECK!
YOU SURE
DID ME
A FAVOR!



MORE OF THE ST. LOUIS KID
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
TOP-NOTCH COMICS!

WINGS JOHNSON

OF
THE

Air Patrol



WINGS JOHNSON AND HIS
TAL, HENRY HISSINS, ARE
FERRYING BOMBERS FROM
ASSEMBLY PLANTS TO STRA-
TEGIC AIRDROMES IN BRITAIN.

WINGS SETS A NEW SHIP DOWN ON THE
TARMAC AT A BASE SOMEWHERE ON
THE EAST COAST...

HANDLEY PAGE HAMPDEN



WELL, HENRY! THIS IS THE
FIFTH SHIP TODAY! I
GUESS WE'RE THROUGH
UNTIL MORN- HEY!
LOOK OUT!

OOPS!



LORD-LOVE-A-DUCK! ME
BLINKIN' H'ANKLE FEELS
LIKE HIT'S BLOODY - WELL
BUSTED IN 'ARF!



DON'T TRY TO STAND,
HENRY! WE'LL CARRY
YOU TO THE IN-
FIRMARY!



HENRY IS PUT TO BED IN THE HOSPITAL...



WINGS LEAVES HENRY'S ROOM!



THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL, JOHNSON! TREAT IT AS SUCH! I'M CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS, OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE! I WAS ABOUT TO SPEAK TO YOU AND YOUR OBSERVER WHEN HE - AH - FELL. HOWEVER, I THINK YOU AND I CAN DO THE JOB WITHOUT HIGGINS' HELP!



FOR SOME TIME G.H.Q. HAS BEEN UNEASY ABOUT OUR LONDON DEFENSES! WE WONDER IF GERMAN BOMBERS, GLIDING IN WITH THEIR MOTORS AND LIGHTS OFF, COULD APPROACH OVER LONDON WITHOUT BEING SEEN OR HEARD! I AM DETAILED TO SEE IF THAT CAN BE DONE - WITH YOUR HELP, OF COURSE!



I'LL BE ON CALL TONIGHT AT ANY TIME YOU'RE READY, CAPTAIN!

GOOD, JOHNSON! I'LL CONTACT YOU LATER TONIGHT! WE WILL USE ONE OF THE BOMBERS YOU FERRIED IN TODAY. BUT REMEMBER - KEEP THIS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!



WINGS GOES BACK TO SEE HENRY!

WELL, PAL, YOU MISSED OUT ON SOMETHING EXCITING! I'M OFF ON A SECRET MISSION FOR G.H.Q. TONIGHT!



YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME, WINGSIE! SUPPOSE YOU - SUPPOSE - BLAST YOU!

NOW, NOW, HENRY! TAKE IT EASY! REMEMBER, YOU'RE IN THE HOSPITAL AND YOU HAVE TO BE CALM! I'LL SEE YOU WHEN I GET BACK!



TOWARDS MIDNIGHT, WINGS AND CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS TAKE OFF FROM THE AIR-DROME!!!!!!



WE'RE OFF, JOHNSON! NOW, REMEMBER, GAIN ALL THE ALTITUDE YOU CAN! THEN, WHEN WE APPROACH LONDON, CUT YOUR MOTORS AND SIGNAL LIGHTS AND GLIDE TOWARDS THE HEART OF THE CITY!



SEVERAL HOURS LATER, THE BOMBER ARRIVES OVER THE OUTSKIRTS OF LONDON AND JOHNSON CUTS THE MOTORS.



KEEP 'ER IN THE SAME ANGLE OF GLIDE, JOHNSON! I'M GOING AFT AND CHECK OUR COURSE ON THE MAP!

RIGHT, CAPTAIN!



IN THE REAR OF THE BOMBER, HENRY-A STOWAWAY-PEERS' OVER CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS' SHOULDER!



WE'VE ALMOST MADE IT! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! THIS IS ASTOUNDING! WE HAVEN'T BEEN SIGHTED BY THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT YET!



THE HANDLEY PAGE HAMPDEN GLIDES NEAR TO THE HEART OF THE CAPITAL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.





ER-SAY-CAPTAIN! WOULD YOU MIND TAKING THE CONTROLS FOR A MOMENT?

I'M NOT A PILOT, JOHNSON! BUT I CAN HOLD THEM LIKE YOU TELL ME IF YOU WANT ME TO!



OH, OH HERE'S WINGSIE! I BETTER DUCK!

THAT'S RIGHT. JUST HOLD THE WHEEL LIKE THAT - I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



HIM?... HOW DO I KNOW THIS GUY IS FROM BRITISH INTELLIGENCE? IF THE GERMANS EVER FOUND OUT THEY COULD FLY OVER LONDON BY CUTTING THEIR MOTORS...!



A SUDDEN LURCH OF THE SHIP THROWS HENRY OFF BALANCE!

WH-WH-WHAT'S TH' BLOOMIN' H' IDEA?



HIGGINS' HEAD STRIKES THE SWITCH BOX, TURNING ON THE PLANE'S LANDING LIGHTS!

LANDING LIGHT SWITCH



HEY! SEE THOSE LIGHTS? WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?



BOMBER ALOFT! OPEN FIRE!!!



IN A FEW SECONDS, THE PLANE IS SURROUNDED IN AN INFERNO OF BURSTING SHELLS!



THE BOMBER ZOOMS TOWARD THE GROUND!



HENRY IS HURLED FORWARD!





WINGS JERKS THE NOSE OF THE SHIP UP JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!



WHEW! THAT WAS AS CLOSE AS I WANT TO COME! HENRY! HOW'RE YOU DOIN'?

NOT BAD FOR H'AN OLD COOT WITH H'A BUSTED PEDAL H'EXTREMITY! BUT H'IT'S A LUCKY THING FOR YOU H'I STONED AWAY H'ON THIS BLOODY FLIGHT!

H'I 'AD ME H'EYE H'ON THIS BLARSTED CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING! "HENRY," I SAYS TO MYSELF, "THAT H'OFFICER H'AIN'T UP TO NO GOOD," H'I SAYS! YES, SIR!

WINGS AND HENRY RETURN TO THEIR AIRDROME WITH THE NAZI SPY!

CLEAR THE WAYS! BOMBER COMING IN!

MUST BE JOHNSON! WHERE'S HE BEEN?

WELL! "CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS," IS IT? LOOKS MORE LIKE KARL VON KARSTARES, OF THE GERMAN SECRET SERVICE!

CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS, ME FOOT! H'AND SPEAKIN' OF ME FOOT - WHO'LL GIVE ME A HAND WITH IT?

WINGS JOHNSON AND HENRY HIGGINS JOIN THE AIR PATROL FOR MORE THRILLING ADVENTURES IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF **TOP-NOTCH COMICS!**

BOB PHANTOM

THE WEALTHY TIMMINS FAMILY IS AWAY FOR TWO WEEKS VACATION AND THEIR MANSION IS CLOSED....BUT ONE NIGHT, A FLASHLIGHT PLAYS AROUND A ROOM UNTIL IT LOCATES A HIDDEN SAFE IN THE WALL! THEN....

WALT WHITNEY, FAMOUS BROADWAY COLUMNIST, IS 'TAKING A STROLL....

A FLASHLIGHT IN THE TIMMINS' HOME! I'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK INTO THIS!

I GOT ALL TH' DIAMONDS, SNOOZER! LET'S GO!

HEY SNOOZER! I HEAR SOMEONE COMIN'!

THE PROFESSIONAL CRACKSMEN LEAP INTO THE LAUNDRY CHUTE!

THE NEXT MOMENT, A SWIRL OF WIND AND A PUFF OF EERIE WHITE SMOKE....BOB PHANTOM!

THEY'RE GONE!

LATER, THE TWO MEN ENTER THEIR APARTMENT BUILDING.

GOOD EVENING

GOOD EVENIN'

BRICK, YOU GO DOWN THE HALL AND TELL THAT GAL I'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES TO TAKE HER OUT! I GOTTA GET DRESSED!

OKAY, SNOOZER!

HELLO MR. MASON! WON'T YOU COME IN?

I UNDERSTAND YOU AN' SNOOZER... I MEAN MR. SMITH, ARE GOIN' TO THE OPENING OF THE NEW PLAY, TONIGHT?

YES! I'M SO THRILLED. I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU MEN ARE SO NICE TO ME!

HELLO, MISS JINX! I THOUGHT WE'D ALL HAVE A COCKTAIL BEFORE WE GO TO THE THEATRE!

OH!... THAT'S DELIGHTFUL!

I'LL MAKE USE OF YOUR KITCHEN, JINX!... IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU!

OF COURSE! IF YOU DON'T FIND EVERYTHING YOU WANT, JUST CALL ME!

LISTEN, SNOOZER, WHERE'D YOU PUT THOSE SPARKLERS?

SHH! I'LL TELL YOU AFTER WE GET BACK FROM THE PLAY!

NOW SHUT UP ABOUT IT AND LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!

OKAY, SNOOZER! BUT IF YOU TRY TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME, I'LL SINK A HALF FOOT OF STEEL KNIFE IN YOU!... AN' DON'T FORGET IT!



BOB PHANTOM APPEARS BESIDE THE GIRL!

COME WITH ME!
THE COPS WILL
BE HERE ANY
SECOND!



I KNOW YOU HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH THAT
MURDER, BUT THE COPS
MIGHT NOT BELIEVE
YOU!



BOB PHANTOM GETS THE GIRL
SAFELY OUT OF THE THEATRE!

QUICK! WHAT'S YOUR
NAME AND ADDRESS?

JINK FRIDAY...
THE BELMONT
APARTMENTS...
SUITE 13!



THE HOMICIDE SQUAD HAS AL-
READY TAKEN OVER THE CASE.

SO IT'S SNOOZER
SMITH, EH? WE'VE
BEEN LOOKIN'
FOR THIS
JEWEL THIEF
FOR A LONG
TIME!

RIGHT! BUT
IT'S TOO
BAD WE
DIDN'T FIND
HIS PAL,
BRICK MASON
RIGHT WITH
HIM!



WELL, WELL!
LIEUTENANT
HOGAN!
WHO'S THE
DEAD PUNK?

AS USUAL
WHITNEY YOU
DON'T KNOW
A PUNK FROM
A BIG SHOT!..
GO AWAY!



OKAY, PAL!
TOO BAD
THAT MURDER
DIDN'T HAP-
PEN ON THE
STAGE...
YOU COULD
HAVE TURNED
THE SPOT-
LIGHT ON
YOURSELF!..
SO LONG!



ONCE AGAIN.. THE STREAKING FIGURE OF BOB PHANTOM!

IN THE MEANTIME, JINX FRIDAY HAS RETURNED TO HER APARTMENT.



WOW! SOMEONE WENT THROUGH SNOOZER'S APARTMENT LIKE A HURRICANE! WONDER WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR?



YOU HAVE A GUEST, MISS JINX!

OH! BRICK MASON!... WHAT?!



WHERE ARE THOSE DIAMONDS? SNOOZER SLIPPED 'EM TO YOU DIDN'T HE? COME ON!



BOB PHANTOM ARRIVES AT SNOOZER'S APARTMENT UP THE HALL



WHEN YOU FEEL THIS FLAME BURNING YOUR FOOT, YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND AND TALK!



BOB PHANTOM!



NOW, MISS FRIDAY... LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THIS FIX! A MURDER AND A TRYST WITH A TORTURER IS A LITTLE TOO MUCH FOR ONE EVENING, ISN'T IT?



YOU JUST SIT TIGHT...I'LL DELIVER THIS UNCONSCIOUS THUG TO THE POLICE AND SEND MY FRIEND WALT WHITNEY AROUND TO HELP YOU FIT UP A STORY IN CASE THE POLICE GET INQUISITIVE!

BOB PHANTOM APPEARS
AT THE POLICE STATION.

YOU LUGS!
IF YOU CAN
SKIP THE
CHECKERS...I
HAVE A PRESENT
FOR YOU!

MOTHER MACHREE!
IT'S BRICK MASON,
SNOOZER SMITH'S
PAL!

LATER...

HELLO...YOU'RE
JINX FRIDAY AREN'T
YOU?...I'M WALT
WHITNEY! MAY
I COME IN?

HERE'S A DRINK FOR YOU!
I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE
ICE CUBES IN IT ARE
THE HOTTEST ICE
YOU'VE EVER SEEN!

THANKS!
ER..WHAT?
HOT ICE?
LET'S
SEE!



DIAMONDS
FROZEN IN
THE CUBES!

YES! I FIGURED
OUT THAT...IF SNOOZER
HAD THE GEMS, THE
ONLY PLACE HE
COULD HAVE PUT
THEM WAS IN
THE ICE TRAY...
WHEN HE
FIXED A DRINK
BEFORE WE
WENT TO THE
THEATRE!

SMART GAL!...
HMM..YOU
KNOW, I COULD
USE YOU TO
HELP ME
WITH MY
COLUMN! HOW
ABOUT IT?

6

OH, MR. WHITNEY! YOU WOULDN'T
WANT A PLAIN LITTLE OLD GIRL
LIKE ME!

I'M NOT SO SURE!
LET'S HAVE THOSE
GLASSES!

JINX FRIDAY UNDERGOES A CHANGE.

NOW WE'LL DROP THE DIAMONDS
OFF AT THE POLICE
STATION AND I'LL
INTRODUCE
THEM TO MY
NEW GAL FRIDAY!

BOB PHANTOM (AND WALT
WHITNEY) APPEAR IN EVERY
ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS.

HEY, FELLAS! LOOKA THIS! DID I HIT THE **JACKPOT!** STEEL STERLING, THE BLACK HOOD, MR. JUSTICE, AND THAT LAUGH-PROVOKING DEVIL-MAY-CARE, ACE OF THE BRITISH ARMY, SERGEANT BOYLE, WITH HIS PAL (?) CORPORAL COLLINS, ALL IN ONE MAGAZINE! IT SURE IS A **JACKPOT!**

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FACE THE ELECTRIC CHAIR,
...AND HOW COULD THE
SHIELD SAVE HIM WITH-
OUT FIRST BREAKING THE
LAW HE HAD SWORN TO
UPHOLD?....

THE MAHARAJAH
MURDERS



WAS THIS A PRE-HISTORIC BEAST
THAT STRUCK TERROR INTO THE
HEARTS OF ALL HOLLYWOOD OR WAS
IT MURDER, HUMANLY AND FIENDISHLY
DESIGNED, THAT ONLY THE
WIZARD COULD
FRUSTRATE?

WAS THIS A GHOST SHIP THAT
CAME OUT OF THE MIST TO
PLUNGE JOE, DUSTY JUJU
AND BETTY WARREN INTO
THE WEIRDEST ADVENTURE
OF THEIR CAREERS?..

MYSTERY OF THE
FLYING DUTCHMAN



DEATH BELOW



TERROR STRUCK AT ALL THOSE WHO TRIED
TO WORK IN THE VITAL MANGANESE MINES,
BUT THE SHIELD AND DUSTY WERE STILL
TO BE RECKONED WITH?....

WEIRD
HORROR
STRUCK
AT ALL
VISITORS TO
THE CITY
UNTIL THE
WIZARD AND
ROY THE SUPER-
BOY DECIDED
TO INVESTIGATE?..



THE CORPSES THAT
WOULDN'T STAY HOME

THE MONSTER
OF MADNESS

ALL
THESE
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THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN



HURBELL

COMIN' RIGHT UP WITH YER WATER, MR. VAN SLICK!

IT'S HIGH TIME! YOU KEPT ME WAITING THREE FULL MINUTES!



LOOK OUT!

OOPS!



YOU CLUMSY LITTLE FOOL! THIS IS THE LAST STRAW... I QUIT!

WHOA, BALTHAR! TAKE IT EASY!

HE HIT LITTLE BOY, KARDAK! ME "SMACK HIM EARS OFF!"



I'LL SHOW THEM THE FOOLS!

REHEARSAL CALLED OFF EVERYBODY!



THERE!.. SEE WHAT I'M UP AGAINST KARDAK WITH A TEMPERAMENTAL STAR LIKE VAN SLICK! NOW THE WHOLE CAST LOSES PAY UNTIL HE GETS BACK INTO THE MOOD!

MAYBE I CAN HANDLE HIM, EDDIE!.. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



OH MR. VAN SLICK! JUST A MOMENT!

OH!.. YOU'RE THAT MAGICIAN FRIEND OF THE DIRECTOR!.. WELL, WHAT DO YOU WANT!



IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY MIND YOU'RE CRAZY!

YOU'RE PRETTY CALLOUS ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S SUFFERINGS! LET'S SEE WHAT YOUR FUTURE'S LIKE!

DOOR TO THE FUTURE



ROT! YOU CAN'T BLUFF ME! DOOR TO THE FUTURE! HA, HA! THAT IS A LAUGH!



AS VAN SLICK STEPS THROUGH THE DOOR...

HEY! WH... WHAT'S HAPPENED? WHERE AM I?



KEEP MOVIN', BUD!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO!.. KNOW WHO I AM?



OWOO!

SURE!.. A WISE BUM WHO'S ASKIN' FOR IT!.. MOVE, I SAID!



THIS MUST BE A GAG! OH! HERE COMES EDDIE, NOW!... BOY, WILL I BAWL HIM OUT! EDDIE! OH, EDDIE!

WHO'S THAT GUY, EDDIE?

HUH? I DUNNO!



NOW LOOK! ...I..

WELL, I'LL BE! IT'S OSWALD VAN SLICK! HE USED TO BE A BIG SHOT ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO! REMEMBER JIMMIE, OSSIE? HE'S MY STAR, NOW!

HE OUGHT TO! HE SOCKED ME OFTEN ENOUGH!



ARE YOU ALL NUTS? JUST FIVE MINUTES AGO, I WAS..

POOR GUY! HE LOOKS DOWN AND OUT! HERE'S A DIME FOR SOME COFFEE!



THAT'S THE WAY IT IS! UP ONE DAY, DOWN THE NEXT! WELL, SO LONG!

WHY YOU DIRTY! THINK I'M A PAN-HANDLER, HUH?



HELLO, VAN SLICK! HOW'S THINGS?

YOU!



THIS IS ALL ONE OF YOUR BLASTED TRICKS! I'LL FIX YOU!

THE FELLOW'S A LITTLE HOT UNDER THE COLLAR, BALTHAR!



LET ME GO!

ME COOL I'M OFF!

NO ROUGH STUFF, BALTHAR! I GUESS HE STILL HASN'T THOUGHT THINGS OVER YET! LET'S GO!



VAN SLICK GOES TO THE BANK WHERE HE THINKS HE STILL HOLDS AN ACCOUNT...

LOOK! I MUST'VE LOST MY BANK BOOK! WHERE'S THE PRESIDENT?

OH! A WISE GUY HUH! OUTSIDE, BUM! BEFORE I GIVE YOU THE SOLE OF MY BOOT!



WELL WHAT IS IT, PAT?

THIS TRAMP INSISTS ON SEEIN' YOU... SAYS HE'S GOT AN ACCOUNT HERE!



I'M OSWALD VAN SLICK, OF COURSE! WILL YOU PLEASE INSTRUCT YOUR CASHIER TO LET ME HAVE MY MONEY?

WHAT IS THIS, A JOKE? YOU DREW ALL YOUR MONEY YEARS AGO!



HEY!.. STOP!

YOU'RE IN ON THIS FRAME-UP, TOO! I'LL KILL YOU!.. I'LL

HELP! HELP! AARGH!



ARREST HIM! HE'S A MADMAN!

I KNEW HE WAS A SCREWBALL! I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM, SIR!

LET GO OF ME!



A PATROL WAGON CARTS THE BEWILDERED VAN SLICK TO THE STATION HOUSE...

THAT'S HOW IT IS WITH THESE EX-STARS, PAT! THEY JUST CAN'T GET USED TO FAILURE!

THAT'S RIGHT, MIKE!

HO HO!



WELL, VAN SLICK, HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE KNOCKED OFF YOUR PEDESTAL?



C'MON!.. NO USE FIGHTIN'! YOU'RE GOIN' INTO THE HOOSEGOW!

KARDAK! GET ME OUT OF THIS!.. I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY!.. PLEASE!



FOLLOW ME! BALTHAR'LL HOLD THE POLICE OFF FOR AWHILE!



ALL RIGHT!..I GUESS YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON!..... PRESTO!

DOOR TO THE PAST



THE ACTOR STEPS THROUGH THE DOOR OF THE PAST...

WH... WHA...

HELLO! BACK SO SOON?



COME ON EVERYBODY!..WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?..LET'S GET ON WITH THE REHEARSAL!



GREAT GHOSTS!..AM I HEARIN' THINGS?

IF WE ALL PITCH IN AND CO-OPERATE, WE'LL MAKE A HIT OUT OF THIS SHOW!..LET'S GO EVERYBODY!..AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!



KARDAK!..I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EARS!..WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HIM?



JUST A LITTLE MENTAL HYPNOSIS!..IT'S WORKED BEFORE...AND I GUESS IT'S WORKING AGAIN!



LATER, AS VAN SLICK LEAVES...

HEY MR.... CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?...ULP!.. IT'S VAN SLICK!



SURE IT'S ME!..SO WHAT? HERE HAVE YOURSELF A TEN COURSE MEAL!..AND COME AROUND TOMORROW... I'LL GET A JOB FOR YOU!

ULP!

MORE OF THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN'S UNUSUAL ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!

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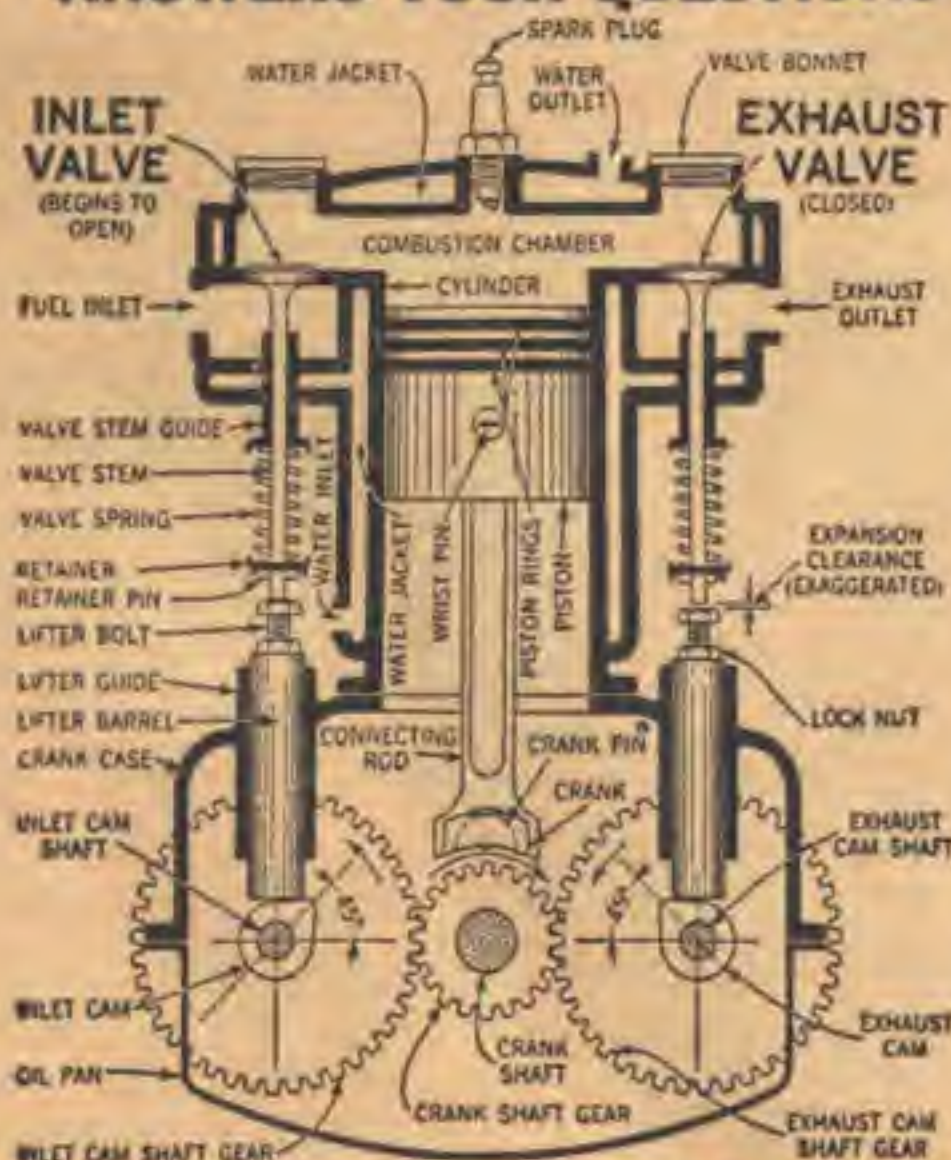
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GIVEN for selling 2 orders. Sent express collect.

JUNIOR GUITAR GIVEN



Get this hand-made instrument **NOW.** Here's How: Just send your name and address (**SEND NO MONEY**). **WE TRUST YOU** with 28 pkts. of Garden Seeds to sell at 10c a pkt. When sold send \$2.80 collected and **WE WILL SEND** this mahogany finished guitar and Five Minute Instruction Book absolutely **FREE.** Send for seeds **NOW.**

Ladies' New Fashion WRIST WATCH GIVEN



More Than a Guaranteed Timekeeper. Sparkling enameled ivory case. Guaranteed Movement. Yours for disposing of only two orders of Garden Spot Seeds. **MAIL COUPON TODAY.**



Crinkled BED SPREAD
The crinkled stripes are neatly woven in contrasting shades. Size 80x90 inches. A beauty. Simply dispose of 1 order.

BASKETBALL GIVEN



Latest Rubber Valve Type. **SEND NO MONEY.** Just name and address. Given for disposing of only 28 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. **WRITE FOR SEEDS TODAY. Hurry! Be First.**

SEND NO MONEY Just MAIL COUPON

Blue Bird Granite Cooking Set



Convenient and sanitary kitchen utensils. Entire Set, given as one Premium, consists of four regular-sized pieces: 1 Mixing Bowl, 1 Pudding Pan, 1 Preserving Kettle, with handle, 1 Sauce Pan. Given for selling only 28 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. **Write for seeds TODAY. Send No Money. We Trust You. Hurry! Be First.**

VIOLIN, BOW & INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN



Handsome finish, highly polished. Set of strings and bow included. **SEND NO MONEY** Given for selling only one order. **MAIL THE COUPON TODAY. BE FIRST.**

Home BARBER Outfit



Here is a money-saver, you can trim children's or adults' hair yourself without sending them to the barber. Consists of one pair of guaranteed Hair Clippers same as barber uses for the latest style cuts; one pair Diamond Point Barber Shears & 7-inch Barber Comb. **GIVEN** for selling 1 order.

PRIZE TYPEWRITER GIVEN



\$10 for best and neatest letter written on this machine by July 1 1941. Simply dispose of only one order of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. and Typewriter is yours.

GIANT SPY-GLASS



See moon, stars and people miles away. Gives new pleasure. Always ready. Given for selling only one order. Send for seeds today.

Midget Pocket RADIO GIVEN



For selling only two 28 packet orders of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. Radio needs no batteries or electrical connections. Is complete and ready for use anywhere. **SEND NO MONEY. WE TRUST YOU. Hurry! Just use this Coupon. Do not wait; do it NOW**

Write for Seeds to: Lancaster County Seed Co., Sta. 393 Paradise, Pa.

MAIL COUPON TODAY for

5 FREE

PROMPTNESS

PRIZES!

SENT RIGHT ALONG WITH YOUR REGULAR PREMIUM IF WE GET THIS COUPON IN THE NEXT 5 DAYS.

SO HURRY! FILL OUT TODAY AND MAIL.

20 PICTURE

6-KEY RADIO

MIMULATION WRIST WATCH

MAIL COUPON TODAY

Lancaster County Seed Co., Station 393 Paradise, Pa.
Please send me 28 packets (one order) of Garden Spot Seeds to sell at 10c a pkt. for a fine Gift. I will sell and pay for seeds in 30 days. Also send right along with my Regular Premium the 5 FREE PROMPTNESS PRIZES SHOWN ABOVE.

Name _____
Post Office _____
State _____
Street or R. F. D. _____
Print your last name plainly below

Save 3 cents by filling in, posting and mailing this Coupon on a 1c Post Card TODAY

Our 34th Year